

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 AID-05 PC-01
ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 /116 W
-----065094 201934Z /43

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1483

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02055

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, AO

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: POSSIBLE WESTERN FIVE CONTRIBUTIONS OF
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT, IN THE WAKE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN
RAID ON CASSINGA, THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTED HUMANI-
TARIAN ASSISTANCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE UN HIGH COMMIS-
SIONER FOR REFUGEES. THERE HAS BEEN, HOWEVER, NO FORMAL
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REQUEST OF UN MEMBER STATES TO CONTRIBUTE SUCH ASSISTANCE.
NEVERTHELESS, WE WONDER WHETHER A CONTRIBUTION FROM THE
UNITED STATES TO THE UNHCR WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. IT
SHOULD, OF COURSE, BE EARMARKED SPECIFICALLY FOR HUMANI-
TARIAN RELIEF OF THE VICTIMS OF THE RAID ON CASSINGA.

2. THE REASONS FOR PROPOSING THIS ARE TWO:

- A. THE RAID CAUSED CONSIDERABLE DEATH AND DESTRUCTION AND, WHILE SOME OF THE VICTIMS MAY HAVE BEEN PURELY MILITARY, IT IS LIKELY THAT A LARGE NUMBER WERE REFUGEES.
- B. FROM A PURELY POLITICAL STANDPOINT, THE WESTERN FIVE ARE BEING REGULARLY ACCUSED BY SWAPO OF COMPLICITY IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN RAID AND OF NOT HAVING DENOUNCED IT IN STRONG ENOUGH TERMS. A CONTRIBUTION MIGHT HELP ALLEVIATE SOME OF THIS DISTRUST AND ALSO EXPRESS IN A MATERIAL WAY OUR CONDEMNATION OF THE RAID.

3. THE BRITISH HAVE INFORMED THE CONTACT GROUP THAT, IN RESPONSE TO AN INFORMAL REQUEST BY THE UN FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS OF CASSINGA, THEY HAVE AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE TEN THOUSAND POUNDS IN CASH OR MATERIAL GOODS. NONE OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FIVE HAVE BEEN APPROACHED IN ANY WAY, BUT WE HAVE ALL AGREED TO REFER TO CAPITALS THE QUESTION OF A CONTRIBUTION.

4. FOR GENEVA: WE WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFORMATION YOU CAN OBTAIN ON THE STATE OF THE ANGOLAN REQUEST AND THE RESPONSE OF THE UNHCR TO IT. LEONARD

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